

RUBY VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P. O. BOX 295  
SHERIDAN, MT 59749

MEETING MINUTES – July 7, 2016

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Ruby Valley Conservation District was called to order by Gary Giem, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m. at the NRCS Conference Room, Sheridan, Montana.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Giem  
Rick Sandru  
Jim Powell

George Trischman  
John Anderson

Neil Barnosky  
Jeremy Miller  
Shirley Galovic, Dist. Admin.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dan Durham, NRCS  
Rebecca Ramsey, Ruby Watershed Coordinator

Matt Jaeger, FWP  
Laurie Zeller, Bureau Chief, Conservation Districts Bureau, DNRC

Peter Rugheimer, Applicant

Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (June 1), motion by Neil to approve, second by Rick, motion carried.  
Treasurer's Report for June 2016 – motion by George to approve as presented, second by Jeremy, motion carried.  
Excused absences: None

310 BUSINESS:           NEW APPLICATIONS  
                              REVIEW - - DECISION  
                              SIGN 273  
                              SET UP INSPECTIONS  
                              INSPECTION COMPLETE

RV16-Complaint#1 – Carl Malesich – Stone Creek – road grading sediment into Stone Creek again. Inspection meeting was held on site with Dave Schulz, Madison County Commissioners, Carl Malesich, Matt Jaeger, Gary Giem, Jeremy Miller, Jim Powell, John Whittingham & representatives from Barretts Minerals on July 6 to review areas of complaint. Barretts is preparing a plan for mitigation of the problem – all present were on the same page. Some of the guidelines for mitigation are listed on the inspection form, the formal plan will be reviewed and approved. Motion by John to approve process, second by George, motion carried.

RV16-09 Alan Carroll – Hells Canyon Creek – raise diversion dam to designed elevation – Dan Durham is working on this with Alan, as the design has not been updated for 20 years. NRCS is redesigning. Incomplete, waiting on design. TABLED

RV16-13 Pete Strazdas for Butch Frediani – Browns Gulch – pond/dam. Matt & John inspected 6/1/16. TABLED

RV16-15 Emerg. Dick Lueck – Mill Creek – clean diversion. Matt waived inspection. Motion by Jeremy to approve as completed, second by Neil, motion carried.

RV16-16 Emerg. Rick Sandru – Jefferson River – restore irrig. water. Paperwork sent to Ron Spoon 6/28/16. Motion by Jeremy to approve as completed contingent on Ron Spoon, FWP, approval, second by Jim, motion carried. Rick recused himself.

RV16-17 Carol Hacker – Ruby River – bank stabilization. Matt & Jeremy inspected 7/6/16. Motion by George to approve with modifications on team report, second by John, motion carried.

RV16-18 Peter Rugheimer – Mill Creek – 4-wheeler bridge. Matt & Neil inspected 7/6/16. Motion by Jeremy to approve as proposed, second by Neil, motion carried.

RV16-19 Emerg. SRI River Holdings – Beaverhead River – clean diversion. Matt waived inspection. Motion by George to approve as completed, second by Jeremy, motion carried.

RV16-20 Pete Strazdas for Moen – Browns Gulch – install diversion structure. Matt & John inspected 7/6/16. Motion by John to table awaiting new design, second by Jeremy, motion carried.

RV16-21 Rick Sandru – Jefferson River – place 2'x 6' concrete block in river as temp. diversion. Send paperwork to Ron Spoon. Motion by George to approve contingent on Ron Spoon, FWP, approval, second by John, motion carried. Rick recused himself.

RV16-22 Emerg. Maloney Ranches – Ruby River – repair rock diversion. Matt waived inspection. Motion by Rick to approve as completed, second by Jeremy, motion carried.

Matt Jaeger made his review presentation on previously approved 310 projects from 2012. He presented slides of the completed projects and discussed any problems the applicants may have had.

#### NRCS REPORT:

Dan Durham reported he has lots of projects on the ground. The contractor to cut trees will start this Monday. Ruby Habitat Foundation WRP is moving forward. A new panel has started reviewing applicants for the technician job – all nine applicants are qualified so hopefully hiring process will begin within a week or ten days.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Planning Board – no report.
2. Watershed – Rebecca's report – written submission attached.  
David – vacation.
3. Carcass Composting – Dale Smail agreed to house facility and be site manager. Rebecca still trying to meet with Dale about site tour. The tour for Thursday was cancelled and hopefully will be scheduled for either next Tuesday or the Tuesday after that.
4. Alder Gulch Phase I Improvements (VC Kids Pond) – RDGP – work on Horseshoe Pond underway
5. 319 Grant – Miller Ranch River Restoration Project – reporting complete; received final payment from DEQ
6. RDGP Grant for Flood Hazard (Channel Migration) Mapping of Missouri Headwaters streams – in progress
7. HB223 Grant – Channel Migration Mapping – in progress
8. DNRC District Development Grant – in progress
9. Capacity Building Grant – High Divide – website update – in progress
10. HB223 Grant – Smith Slough Fisheries Enhancement Project - contracted
11. RAC Grant – 2015/2016 Upper Ruby Noxious Weed Cooperative Project – in progress
12. 2016/2017 RAC Grant submitted, partial funding received, revised budget submitted
13. U. S. Forest Service Gravelly Landscape Collaborative Group – keep attending
14. Strategic Alliance – Brainerd Grant – in progress, final report due end of August

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Laurie Zeller, DNRC, reviewed group benefit program and how CDs can levy a tax to cover an employee benefit. Motion by Rick to proceed with the initial minimum payment of \$10/employee/month to begin the process and make a final determination about proceeding in one year, second by John, motion carried.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. MACD Montana Conservationist – July 2016 – copies available (emailed)
2. July 9 – Wildlife Speaker Series – Wetland & Riparian Birds – 8:00am – Silver Spring Ranch
3. July 20 – Strategic Alliance Tour in Upper Ruby – 8:30am – Alder Fire Hall
4. August 9 – Upper Ruby/3 Forks Cooperative Weed Day
5. Sept. 1 – Bear Aware Training – 5:30pm – Alder Fire Hall & Comm. Center, Alder
6. Sept. 15 – Kid's River Resource Day – Silver Springs Ranch

"OPEN MICROPHONE" - Other comments from the public. No comments from public.  
With business completed, the meeting adjourned at 9:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved and Signed,

Shirley Galovic  
District Administrator

Gary Giem  
Chairman

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Kathleen D. Mumme CLERK AND RECORDER  
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TO: FILED 2 PGS,

cc/